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## Small Group Conversation Guide

### Enjoying Life / Ecclesiastes 2

Warm-up: Is there anything you are a *connoisseur* of? Or put another way, is there anything you *nerd out* on? *What is it and why do you enjoy it?*

*Read: Ecclesiastes 2:1-26 (it's long....take turns!)*

Here Solomon shares his journey to enjoy life through pleasure and work. He comes up empty. He concludes that anything we enjoy must come from God. (v.24-26)

1. Solomon makes a decision to pursue pleasure, and yet this is still vanity (breath or *hevel* in Hebrew). *Why can't seeking pleasure be the focus of our life?*
2. What things does Solomon pursue to bring enjoyment to his life? How does it resonate with things our culture pursues? Does it help reinforce the idea that *'there's nothing new under the sun'* from chapter one?
3. Why is it especially challenging NOT to pursue pleasure in our culture?
4. Why doesn't Solomon find fulfillment in any of his great projects? (*verses 18-23*) How does this relate to your world?
5. Solomon concludes that apart from God we can't find enjoyment. (v.25) *Why is this true?*
6. What does God give to the one who pleases Him? (v.26)
7. How can we find joy in making our life about pleasing God?
8. How can receiving blessings as a gift from God more enjoyable than chasing those blessings on our own? What's the difference?
9. *Is this passage comforting or challenging to you? Why?*

*Prayer: How can we pray for each other this week?*

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